

## CLAIMS:

1. Method of visualizing image data relating to an examination of a subject, comprising the step of:

a) automatically selecting one or more appropriate protocols from a set of predefined protocols defining visualizing techniques to be applied to the image data,

5 characterized in that, the method further comprises the steps of:

b) analyzing the image data (10);

c) deciding on the part of the subject's anatomy represented by the image data (20); and/or

d) deciding on the purpose of said examination performed on the subject (20);

10 and

e) selecting one or more of the appropriate protocols in dependence of the anatomy part present and/or the purpose of the examination performed (30).

2. Method according to claim 1, wherein step e) comprises the step of:

15 e1) selecting one or more appropriate protocols from a set of predefined protocols, a number of said predefined protocols defining processing techniques to be applied to the image data.

3. Method according to claim 1 or 2, wherein step e) comprises the step of:

20 e2) selecting one or more appropriate protocols from a set of predefined protocols, a number of said predefined protocols defining techniques for Computer Aided Diagnosis (CAD) to be applied to the image data.

4. Method according to claim 1, 2 or 3, wherein step e) comprises the step of:

25 e3) automatically selecting one or more appropriate protocols from a set of predefined protocols, a number of said predefined protocols defining anatomy dedicated techniques to be applied to the image data.

5. Method according to claim 1, 2, 3 or 4, wherein step e) comprises the step of:

e4) automatically selecting one or more appropriate protocols from a set of predefined protocols, a number of said predefined protocols defining display techniques to be applied to the image data.

- 5      6.              Method according to one or more of the preceding claims, wherein step b) comprises the step of comparing the image data to reference data.
7.              Method according to one or more of the preceding claims, wherein step b) comprises the step of subdividing the image data in coherent parts.
- 10      8.              Method according to one or more of the preceding claims, wherein step b) comprises the step of extracting salient structures present in the image data.
- 15      9.              Computer program to carry out the method according to one or more of the preceding claims.
10.              System to carry out the method according to one or more of the preceding claims 1 through 8, comprising:
- 20              a) means for automatically selecting one or more appropriate protocols from a set of predefined protocols defining visualizing techniques to be applied to the image data, characterized in that the system further comprises:
- b) means (3) for analyzing the image data;
- c) means (4) for deciding on the part of the subject's anatomy represented by the image data; and/or
- 25              d) means (4) for deciding on the purpose of the examination performed on the subject; and
- e) means (5) for selecting the appropriate protocol in dependence of the anatomy part present and/or the purpose of the examination performed.